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ABSTRACT

This selected bibliography lists many of the contemporary resources on suicide and its varied dimensions representing the health sciences, social sciences, and medicine. The materials include books, periodical literature, dissertations, audiovisuals, journals, and a list of related professional organizations. In addition to a general discussion of suicide and its causes, prevention, and intervention, the special problems of adolescents are considered. This bibliography should be useful to school health professionals and others who work with and counsel young people and adults. (JAC)

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SELECTED RESOURCES ON SUICIDE: CAUSES AND PREVENTION

by

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SELECTED RESOURCES ON SUICIDE: CAUSES AND PREVENTION

Suicide ranks high among the major causes of death in this country. While accurate statistics are hard to come by, suicide is usually identified as the second leading cause of adolescent death. Its causation is complex; no single theory explains phenomena as varied and complicated as self-destructive behavior.

All health professionals should strive to accumulate knowledge in order to deal more effectively with pedagogical and clinical aspects of suicide and to work with young adolescents and college students within a counseling context. A better understanding of suicide involves insights that must be extrapolated from literature representing the health sciences, social sciences, and medicine.

Contemporary literature on suicide and its varied dimensions is vast. Supporting resources are also increasing in number. The following entries represent exemplary sources (literature, audiovisuals, organizations) now available. Many of these should be useful to school health professionals and others who work with and counsel young people and adults.

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Adolescent/Youth

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AUDIOVISUALS

<u>But Jack was a Good Driver</u>. Color film, 15 minutes, sound, 16mm, 1974.
An examination of human values. Reflects elements of suicide and guilt feelings among survivors. CRM/McGraw-Hill.

Depression/Suicide: You Can Turn Bad Feelings Into Good Ones. Color film, 28 minutes, 1976. The focus is teenage suicide, as persons who attempted suicide are interviewed. Motivations are examined. University of California, Berkeley.

Help Me: The Story of a Teenage Suicide. 25 minute, color film. Distributed by Phonex Films, Inc., 470 Park Avenue S., New York, NY 10016.

Preventing Teen Suicide: You Can Help. Three filmstrips, three tapes or records, 1981. Presents an indepth analysis of a case of teen suicide; reveals some of the causes, warning signs and methods of presenting this number-two cause of adolescent death. Stresses importance of listening and caring. Sunburst Communications.

Rick: An Adolescent Suicide. Black and White film, 29 minutes, 1969. A re-creation of circumstances surrounding suicidal death of a 17-year-old high school senior. Medical Media Network.

Suicide. Audiocassette, 53 minutes. A sociologist discusses typical circumstances and conditions leading to potential suicide. Jeffrey Norton Pub.

Suicide. Color film or video tape, 25 minutes, 1975. Made for a television audience, the film examines causation, preventive measures; presents statistics and probes suicide via the use of professionals. Film Incorporated.

Suicide: Causes and Prevention. Two color filmstrips and audiocassettes or records, 1976. Presentation geared to high school audiences. Includes discussion of issues and case studies. Human Relations Media Center.

Suicide: Current Research and Prevention Efforts. Three audiocassettes, 60 minutes each, 1976. A moderate survey of suicide and its broad dimensions. Behaviorial Sciences Tape Library.

Suicide in the Classroom. Video tape, 1978. Available with accompanying study guide by Sandra Bertman. Highly Specialized Promotions.

Suicide Intervention. Color videotape, 30 minutes, 1975. Designed as introductory material for nurses. American Journal of Nursing.

Suicide: Teenage Crisis. Color film, 10 minutes, 16mm, 1981. Explores the problem and describes a variety of school and community programs that are now beginning to save troubled lives through counseling. CRM/McGraw-Hill.

JOURNALS

Published articles on suicide appear in a variety of health-related periodicals. Publications within the death education field, i.e., Omega, Death Education, Essence and Thanatos, focus more directly on the subject. The journal identified here is totally committed to the subjects of suicide and life-threatening behavior.

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior. Sponsored by the American Association of Suicidology and published quarterly by Human Sciences Press, 72 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011. $22.00 to individuals; $45.00 to institutions.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SUICIDOLOGY, Department of Psychiatry, Baylor College of Medicine, 1200 Moursund, Houston, Texas 77030.

CENTER FOR DEATH EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, 1167 Social Science Building, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Robert Fulton, director.

FORUM FOR DEATH EDUCATION AND COUNSELING, INC., P.O. Box 1226, Arlington, VA 22210.

FOUNDATION OF THANATOLOGY, 630 West 168th Street, New York, NY 10032.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION, University of California Medical Center, San Francisco, CA 94143.